

JORDAN TIMES

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AMMAN, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1977 — RABIE AWAL 4, 1397

Clifford meets Turkish leaders

ANKARA, Feb. 21 (AFP). — American presidential envoy Clark Clifford began talks with Turkish leaders here today, indicating hopes for improvement in recently strained relations between the two countries. He reported considerable progress after meeting Prime Minister Süleyman Demirel for more than two hours, and said he had also agreed with President Fahri Korutürk on the importance of NATO, to which both countries belong. Mr. Clifford, on a fact-finding tour for President Jimmy Carter, arrived here yesterday after four days of talks in Athens, and will go on to Cyprus on Wednesday. An informed source said Mr. Clifford gave Mr. Demirel a letter from Mr. Carter, saying that Ankara as well as Washington should improve relations between the two.

Price : 50 fils

Sytenko meets Sarkis, Arafat

BEIRUT, Feb. 21 (AFP). — Mikhail Sytenko, head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Middle Eastern Department left here today at the close of a three-day visit to Lebanon. Earlier today, Mr. Sytenko met with Alexandri Solda-Sarkis, Soviet Ambassador to Lebanon. Alexandri Solda-Sarkis reportedly attended the hour-long meeting of which no details were given. The Soviet diplomat, who arrived here from Amman last Friday, also met with the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation Yasser Arafat for four hours and held talks with Lebanese Foreign Minister Fuad Boutros on prospects for reconvening the Geneva conference and for a review of the Political Situation in the area.

Volume 2, Number 391

Palestinian team due here for talks today

AMMAN (Agencies). — A Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) delegation will arrive in Amman Tuesday to resume talks, broken off for six years with the Jordanian government, a PLO spokesman announced here Monday night.

The delegation will be headed by Mr. Khaled Al Fahoum, head of the Palestinian National Council.

The event could ultimately prove to be one of the most important political developments in the Middle East this year although neither side has been giving it advance publicity.

The five-man Palestinian delegation is coming for what is officially described as a dialogue on relations between Jordan and the PLO. Eventually this could lead to full-scale negotiations between them on the ample array of outstanding issues.

Fahmi: Egypt, Syria, Sudan will attend summit on Feb. 27

CAIRO, Feb. 21 (R). — Egypt, Syria and Sudan will hold a summit meeting in Khartoum Feb. 27, Egyptian Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmi said today.

Fahmi said the meeting would discuss Sudanese participation in the system of joint leadership created last summer between Egypt and Sudan.

A foreign minister also said expected another summit meeting in a number of Arab countries to be held in Cairo next month to discuss financial aid to Egypt and Syria.

His meeting was expected to take place before the first Afro-Arab summit scheduled to start in the Egyptian capital on March 7, he said.

The Egyptian-Syrian leadership system provides for a military-political command to coordinate the policies of the two states.

The command includes the presidents and prime ministers of the two countries. It could be the way for work on some form of union between Egypt and Syria.

Fahmi did not say who would participate in the summit financial help for Egypt.

Observers here said the participants could include Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Egypt and Sudan.

And Bahrain signed a political and economic integration agreement three years ago and a defence pact was concluded last July.



His Majesty King Hussein confers with French Foreign Minister Louis De Guiringaud at the Hashemiyeh Palace Monday afternoon. (JNA photo).

French F.M.'s talks with King Hussein described as frank

AMMAN (Agencies). — The French Foreign Minister M. Louis de Guiringaud Monday left here for Cairo after a two-day visit to Jordan during which he held talks with His Majesty King Hussein, His Highness Crown Prince Hassan and other top officials.

M. de Guiringaud described his talks with the King and the Crown Prince as frank and fruitful.

He was seen off at the airport by Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hassan Ibrahim, the French Ambassador

in Amman and heads of the diplomatic corps.

Earlier on Sunday, King Hussein received M. de Guiringaud at the Hashemiyeh Palace. The meeting reviewed the results of the minister's current tour of the Middle East and the international political efforts aimed at resolving the Middle East crisis.

The meeting also discussed the possibilities of reconvening the Geneva peace conference and reviewed bilateral relations and ways to further increase cooperation between Jordan and France.

The French minister handed a written message to the King (Continued on page 2)

De Guiringaud tells Jordan Times

Palestinians have right to their own homeland

French Foreign Minister Louis de Guiringaud arrived in Amman Sunday on his fact-finding swing through Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and Egypt. Before he left for Cairo, he talked to the Jordan Times about France's view of the Middle East conflict and the chances for achieving peace in 1977. The interview appeared in Arabic in Monday's edition of the Jordan Times' sister publication Al Ra'i.

By Liha Gress Special to the Jordan Times

Q: Everybody is talking about the rights of the Palestinians, including those of the 1948 refugees. How does your government see the nature of these rights?

A: We think that the Palestinians have the right to their own homeland like any other nation. How these rights will

be achieved is the essential object of negotiations to find a peaceful solution to the Middle East problem. If negotiations are to be conducted, it is only natural that the Palestinians be represented at such negotiations.

There must be a global solution and this global solution must deal with all aspects of the Palestinian problem.

Q: What role has France played in the M.E. peace effort and what guarantees is your country prepared to give if a settlement is reached?

A: France does not seek to play any particular role, for it has a traditional standing in the Middle East. Furthermore, France occupies a permanent seat in the Security Council, which imposes upon it responsibilities concerning the M.E. crisis. Therefore it must participate in the search for a solution to the problem.

As to the guarantees, they will be the object of negotiations. When a solution is reached, France will consider what guarantees to provide in order to ensure that such a solution is permanent. (Continued on page 2)

Fahmi wants France at Geneva meet

CAIRO, Feb. 21 (R). — Egypt informed France officially tonight that it would welcome its participation at a resumed Geneva Middle East peace conference, Egyptian Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmi said.

Mr. Fahmi, speaking to reporters after his second round of talks with French Foreign Minister Louis de Guiringaud, said Egypt welcomed the basic role France was prepared to play in solving the Middle East crisis.

He added that he had officially informed M. de Guiringaud of Egypt's wish to see France join the Geneva conference.

Meanwhile, M. de Guiringaud said in an interview in the influential Egyptian daily Al Ahram today that while France did not intend to make specific proposals for a settlement, it had asked the new Carter government in Washington to play a greater part in promoting peace in the Middle East.

According to informed sources in Amman, Jordanian leadership (Continued on page 6)

Vance: No progress on PLO participation

DAMASCUS, Feb. 21 (R). — U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance flew back to Washington today at the end of his six-nation Middle East tour, leaving Arab leaders cautiously optimistic about moves towards peace in the area.

But shortly before leaving Damascus he said no progress had been made on the key issue blocking a resumption of Geneva peace talks, that of Palestinian representation.

He told reporters earlier that both Israeli and Arab leaders were willing to return to Geneva this year if the status of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) could be settled.

Both sides were "desperate" for a peace settlement, he said. Both Israel and the PLO face important political tests in the next three months -- general elections in Israel on May 17 and a meeting on the Palestinian National Council on March 12 which will discuss future policy.

Key questions about the PLO's role in peace negotiations, the shape of a future Palestinian state and its relations with its Arab neighbours will be debated, but it is too early to say whether any definite decisions will emerge.

Only after these two political tests will it be possible to gauge the success or otherwise of this month's diplomatic efforts by Mr. Vance and other foreign visitors to the region, including U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, the French and West German foreign ministers, and a senior Soviet diplomat.

Mr. Vance had a friendly send-off this morning when he left Saudi Arabia after talks with Crown Prince Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz and Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal.

In an airport statement, Prince Fahd said he was now more optimistic as a result of Mr. Vance's mission. He said it was encouraging that the Carter administration had despatched Mr. Vance to the Middle East so soon after taking office so that he could have face-to-face meetings with leaders of the area.

In addition, he told Mr. Vance: "You yourself expressed that at the core of the entire Middle Eastern problem is the Palestinian question."

Mr. Vance said in reply he agreed there was a basis for optimism -- but at the same time he wanted to caution that a long and difficult road lay ahead.

He said the Palestinian question was "one of the core questions."

As on his other stops, Mr. Vance conveyed an invitation from President Carter -- this time to crown Prince Fahd, the second most powerful man in the state. He accepted, with the date to be announced later.

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EEC text urges Israeli pullback?

CAIRO, Feb. 21 (R). — The semi-official Cairo newspaper Al Ahram said today that the Ministerial Council of the European Common Market (EEC) has prepared a call for Israel's withdrawal from Arab territories occupied in 1967.

The Middle East crisis could not be solved without recognising the Palestinian people's rights on a regional basis, according to a text which Al Ahram said the EEC Ministerial Council adopted at a meeting in London last month.

But the ministers decided to postpone publication of the statement while awaiting the results of visits of a number of EEC foreign ministers to the Middle East, Al Ahram said.

Al Ahram said the council's text had stipulated the necessity of Israel ending its occupation of the Arab territories it occupied in 1967 and that Israel must recognise the Palestinian people's rights.

The draft statement, according to Al Ahram, said the Middle East dispute could not be solved without "practically" translating the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people into a national entity on a regional basis.

Al Ahram said the draft had underlined the need of the Palestinians' participation in Middle East peace negotiations.

The text, Al Ahram reported, said member states of the European Common Market were "ready to participate in a system of international guarantees to implement a Middle East peace settlement."

Assad: Syria welcomes Jordanian-Palestinian confederal link

DAMASCUS, Feb. 21 (R). — Syrian President Hafez Assad told newsmen today this country would welcome and support any step towards a confederal link between Jordan and a future Palestinian state.

He told a press conference shortly before U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance left for home that he did not believe Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's call for such a link had anything to do with the Geneva Middle East peace conference.

He did not explain. Answering a reporter's question he said Syrians supported any federal step between two Arab states, and "accordingly we support any step between the envisaged Palestinian state and Jordan," although the intentions of the parties concerned were not known yet.

Asked whether he supported the idea of a Palestinian government in exile the Syrian president remarked: "This matter concerns the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), but I personally see no point in forming such a government at this stage."

He said his meeting with Mr. Vance had been useful, and fruitful, and gave a positive impression, and covered the prospects of movement towards

a just peace in the Middle East. "We are all agreed that we should continue our efforts for the achievement of this peace," he added.

He agreed with Mr. Vance that the Geneva conference might be resumed in the second half of this year if some of the obstacles could be overcome.

"In the light of these recent contacts," President Assad said, "it appears possible that the Geneva conference could reconvene in the second half of 1977, and that signifies that possible ways exist of by-passing present difficulties."

Speaking to a group of newsmen after the press conference ended, President Assad said he hoped to meet President Jimmy Carter in Europe in May.

He said he was very happy to have received an invitation from Mr. Carter to visit the U.S.

He added that he would go one day, but before that he would meet the president in a European capital in May.

Asked at the press conference whether Syria would agree to any modification of the 1967 frontiers should Israel agree to abandon some of its conditions, Mr. Assad replied: "Definitely not, because Syria will not give up one inch of Arab land."

British neurologist succeeds Crosland as foreign secretary

LONDON, Feb. 21 (R). — Dr. David Owen, 38, a staunch advocate of Britain's role in Europe, was named tonight as Britain's youngest foreign secretary since World War II.

The tall, dark-haired neurologist, who has been deputy foreign secretary for several months, replaces Mr. Anthony Crosland, 58, who died on Saturday after a stroke which had

left him unconscious for six days.

Dr. Owen takes over the post at a particularly hectic period during which Britain is president of the European Common Market Council of Ministers for the six months up to the end of June.

His appointment, in a minor reshuffle of Prime Minister James Callaghan's Labour cabinet, came as a surprise. The job had been tipped as likely to go to Chancellor of the Exchequer Denis Healey.

But Mr. Healey is preparing a crucial budget for March 29, and Mr. Callaghan wanted him to continue shouldering the burden at the treasury which he has headed for the past three years, informed sources said.

For the past five months Dr. Owen had held the official title of Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. He specialised in European Common Market affairs. Last week Dr. Owen led a community delegation in talks with the Soviet Union over European fisheries limits.

Dr. Owen is regarded as a moderate labourite who has had a swift rise through the political ranks.

His new deputy will be Mr. Frank Judd, who was Minister of Overseas Development.

Mr. Judd's post goes back to the leftwinger who held it previously -- Mrs. Judith Hart. She was dropped from the go-

vernment by Mr. Callaghan when he took over leadership from Sir Harold Wilson in April 1976.

The cabinet's size has been increased from 23 to 24, with the addition of Mr. Joel Barnett, who retains his job as Chief Secretary to the Treasury but goes up to cabinet rank to strengthen Mr. Healey's voice in cabinet sessions.

Mr. Crosland was cremated today near Oxford, where he collapsed at his home after a heavy spell of work -- looking up from his documents suddenly and saying to his American-born wife: "Something has happened."

His widow, the writer Susan Barnes Watson, led the mourners at the small funeral. She had stayed at Mr. Crosland's hospital bedside while he was unconscious.

Mr. Crosland's death has given the Labour government an additional problem. It no longer has an overall majority in the House of Commons and Mr. Crosland's seat at the eastern fishing post of Grimsby cannot automatically be expected to return another Labour member of parliament.

The Labour Party and the combined opposition now each have 314 seats in parliament, so if Grimsby is lost, Labour will be left relying on support from smaller opposition groups. No by-election date has yet been announced.

An interview with Director-General Albert Butros

Royal Scientific Society: Ivory tower, or vital catalyst for Jordan's development?

Is the Royal Scientific Society a luxury that Jordan cannot afford? Or is it a vital nerve centre of technological development and progress in the country? Is it a collection of short-sighted professors tinkering in the detached heights of the plush RSS campus on the leafy, rolling hills outside Amman? Or is it the heartbeat of Jordan's effort to produce social and economic progress through adapting technological capabilities to local needs? Is it fair to ask the RSS to prove its worth every year by showing how it has made life easier for Jordanians, or is it by nature the kind of organisation whose contributions to society cannot be measured by annual balance sheets and profit figures?

In the following two-part interview with the Jordan Times, RSS Director-General Dr. Albert Butros talks about the RSS, and suggests the manner in which this organisation plays its role and makes its contribution to Jordan and the Arab World. Today's article dwells on the broad goals of the RSS, while in tomorrow's piece Dr. Butros discusses the major obstacles facing the society.

By Rami G. Khouri Special to the Jordan Times

Jordan has the human resources, the technological orientation and the necessary infrastructure to become a sort of technological and training centre for the Middle East, according to Dr. Albert Butros, Director-General of the Royal Scientific Society. But before Jordan can aspire to play such a regional role, it has to succeed in the present developmental task that it faces, Dr. Butros says, adding that the small role of the Royal Scientific Society within this country is to act as "a kind of biological catalyst in the developmental thrust of the country."



Dr. Albert Butros

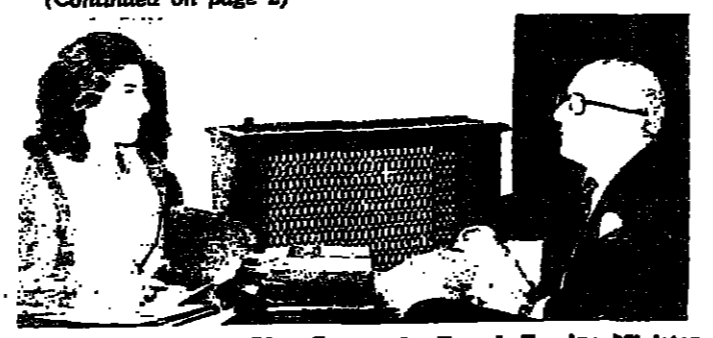
In an interview with the Jordan Times last week, Dr. Butros suggested that the basic role of the RSS is "principally the applied aspects of research and development," which is normally carried out by the research and development (R&D) divisions of the private companies in the industrial states of the West. It became the vast majority of Jordanian companies are small in size, they do not have the capacity to carry out basic R&D work, and the RSS has emerged as the body in Jordan that undertakes this essential task that is tied in with the process of development, modernisation and industrialisation. Butros explains:

"The capital outlay of most Jordanian firms is limited, and few companies have the capability to run their own R&D programmes, so it makes eminent sense to concentrate research and development work in one major, national organisation, provided it does not live in an ivory tower, and provided the organisation is prepared to get its hands dirty and pitch in. We look at the needs of private industry and the various government departments, we talk to the heads of industrial concerns all the time, and we try to see how the RSS can help them tighten

their operations or cut down on costs and improve efficiency and productivity. This is a very important aspect of national development."

But Dr. Butros adds that the RSS does not operate entirely along the lines of a traditional R&D organisation in an industrial society. He points to the work of the RSS in such fields as education, economics or printing as examples of the peculiar role of the RSS in a small developing country such as Jordan.

"We function as a kind of catalyst in the whole thrust of development," he says, sprinkling his thoughts with the combination of space-age and professorial language that emanates from all R&D organisations throughout in the world. "For example, in our education department we have produced a series of science readers for children in the 6-11-year-old age group. This will not have an immediate impact upon industrial development in Jordan, but it is relevant to the whole orientation of our children towards the language of science and technology, the kind of orientation they will find helpful as they grow up in an increasingly mechanised society. In this respect, we do the work that the hurried administrators of day-to-day organisations have little time for. Other examples are the supplementary materials we produce (Continued on page 2)



Jordan Times reporter Liha Gress asks French Foreign Minister Louis de Guiringaud a question during the interview conducted at the Guest Palace Jabal Amman, Sunday. (JT photo).

Spanish Communist electoral lists defy Suarez government

MADRID, Feb. 21 (R). — The Spanish Communist Party tonight put new pressure on the government by announcing its list of candidates for the coming general elections even before the party had been declared legal.

The Communists, officially banned since the end of the 1936-39 civil war, applied for full legal status on Feb. 11. The government has said it would decide by Wednesday whether or not to refer the application to the Supreme Court for a ruling.

However, the party pressed the issue tonight by publishing its list of candidates in most Spanish constituencies for the 350-seat lower house. The Communists thus became the first

party to put forward a detailed list of candidates for the elections to be held by the end of June.

Party Secretary General Santiago Carrillo, and its 81-year-old President Dolores Ibaruri led the lists for Madrid and the Asturias. Senora Ibaruri, known as "La Pasionaria" for her fiery oratory for the republican cause during the civil war, lives in exile in Moscow but hopes to return to her homeland.

The surprise announcement came as Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez worked on the final details of an economic package designed to see Spain through the general elections.

Nervousness over the package, to be presented to the na-

tion tomorrow, forced the party to put forward a detailed list of candidates for the elections to be held by the end of June.

The Communists have also threatened to disrupt the economy with strikes unless they are allowed to contest the elections.

However, the party wants to form electoral alliances to fight the senate seats and thus did not put forward any names for the upper house.

The general shape of the government's economic package, which is designed to boost the economic growth rate to 3.5 per cent from last year's estimated 1.8 per cent, was decided by the cabinet last Friday.

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Essential guarantor

The comments of Royal Scientific Society Director-General Dr. Albert Butros, in his interview in this newspaper today, seem to us particularly relevant to the immense task that Jordan has embarked upon with a clear spirit of determination. That task is conveniently known as "development", and Jordan, like all developing states, is coming to realise two very important things -- that development does not automatically follow the drawing up of plans or the allocations of budgets, and that development involves fundamental transformations in developing societies that are vulnerable precisely because they are in the midst of enormous metamorphosis.

Jordan is not a financially wealthy nation, and it is dwarfed by the oil behemoths that live in the same neighbourhood. But in its basic drive for development, Jordan is in the same class of developing states that includes such cash-rich members as Saudi Arabia or Iran. The same kinds of new institutional structures need to be built, and the same kinds of managerial and administrative capabilities need to be developed, in both Saudi Arabia and Jordan. The single most obvious new physical element that defines the process of development is that of mechanisation.

It was the heart of the Industrial Revolution that sprang up around the North Sea in the 18th and 19th centuries, and it is similarly the heart of the process that has now engulfed the Arab World and the oil-producing states.

Jordan is fortunate in that it has a relatively advanced level of human and material infrastructural development upon which it can build the society it seeks to become. It is also fortunate to have the ability to attract the funds it requires for the process of economic development. The critical factor then becomes the allocation of priorities, and the managerial ability to keep the process moving along smoothly. As the economic boom continues, the task facing the developmental managers in this country, like other developing countries, is one of problem-solving, removal of obstacles and overcoming of bottlenecks.

Cash alone cannot do this job properly or fully. The great task that will determine the success of Jordan's developmental dash is the ability of the country to come up with the managerial capability to keep a mechanised society functioning smoothly. It is the same task that faces all developing nations. While it is relatively easy to build new industrial projects or housing schemes, it is ultimately far more important to have the know-how to run these things, and the parallel ability to adapt things such as educational curricula to the needs of the more complex mechanised society that Jordan will become by the nature of its developmental process. This must be kept in mind by all people, and acted upon before a new physical society is built upon the shoulders of out-moded attitudes. This is the guarantor that development achieved will be development perpetuated.



"He's moving, look out... to arms everybody."

De Guringaud: Palestinians have right to own homeland

Q: Your visit comes as intense diplomatic activity is pursued in the area. Was there any consultation or coordination between yourself and your American and German counterparts and the United Nations?

A: There is no such coordination -- it is pure coincidence -- but this coincidence has a reason d'être. In a few weeks time the Security Council will discuss the chances for a peaceful solution in the Middle East. Hence it is normal that the diplomatic heads of some countries that are interested in this problem should come to explore the views of the leaders of the confrontation states and get to know their position regarding a settlement. This is the purpose of my visit to Beirut, Damascus, Amman and Cairo. I shall also visit Israel by the end of March.

Q: Are you optimistic that current contacts with the various leaders will lead to a speedy solution of the M.E. problem in 1977?

A: You should not be over

optimistic or raise your hopes in case you are deceived. To be realistic, a problem that has lasted for over 25 years cannot be solved in a matter of weeks. Yet I believe that 1977 is more favourable than previous years for finding a peaceful solution and that considerable progress towards a settlement will be achieved.

Q: Will you discuss the results of your visit with the EEC countries?

A: I shall not discuss the results of my visit, because they are not subject to discussion; but it is customary that during political consultations the nine member-states inform one another of the problems that interest the community.

Q: It has been reported that the U.S. has used its influence to prevent the EEC countries issuing a statement about the M.E. How true is that and what is the nature of this statement?

A: The political experts of the nine EEC countries have prepared a declaration concerning the principles of a solution in the Middle East. We

have decided that it is not appropriate to publish this declaration until several of us have paid visits to the Middle East to acquaint ourselves with the situation and the position of the various governments in the region.

In conclusion, the French foreign minister said that Franco-Jordanian relations are excellent and added that relations between His Majesty King Hussein and French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing are personal and friendly.

The minister further stated after his meetings with King Hussein, Prince Hassan and premier Mudar Badran that Jordan and France share similar views on a large number of questions.

The French minister praised existing cooperation between Jordan and France -- primarily in the educational and technical fields. In addition, a large number of French businesses have conducted studies aimed at implementing vital projects in Jordan, such as the phosphate project, and others in line for the future.

Royal Scientific Society: Ivory tower, or vital catalyst for Jordan's development?

(Continued from page 1)

duce for science teachers, such as manuals on the proper care of lab equipment. The Education Ministry just does not have the time to sit back and produce these things. In this sense, we are a catalyst. The principles of technology that we work with are very often universal; they're part of the know-how that humanity has in its hands at this point. Our task is to take this and see how it can be adapted to our local conditions.

"A large part of our job is to speed up the process of the transfer of technology. We have learned that technology cannot be transferred in toto. It has social and economic components that have to be considered. Technology needs a kind of conduit through which it can be transferred from industrial societies to developing societies, through which the technology can be adapted and refined to meet local needs.

"A good example here is our building materials research centre, where we seek to draw on the technology of building that is developed all over the world. But the end product we want has to be Jordanian. We don't aim only to change things here, or the way things are done, but rather to improve on what we have, to investigate the local experience and make it more workable. We ask ourselves constantly: What do we have here? How can we make it better? How can we benefit from the human experience in improving things? We certainly don't want to pull down what we already have in Jordan and impose new structures. We're very aware of the dangers in this. We seek to act as a catalyst between modern technological capabilities and local ways of doing things."

Dr. Butros says that, besides the process of helping the transfer of technology, the RSS has three other primary functions. He lists these as:

(1) to carry out applied research in such areas as industry, education, computer sciences or economics and to make the findings available to both private and government institutions in the country;

(2) to supply expertise in the whole area of administration ("...not to introduce new theories, but rather to work in areas such as organising filing systems, or the flow of information within an organisation...");

(3) And to make an attempt at organising scientific and technological information and making it available to researchers as well as to people in business, industry, agriculture or the government.

Dr. Butros suggests that the RSS could help Jordan develop into a kind of regional centre for research and application. He explains: "The impact of the RSS is ultimately that it will help the process that is taking place in Jordan right now, which is the movement at an accelerating pace into the technological age. I believe that Jordan has a golden opportunity to become a kind of technological centre for the Middle East region. Because of our manpower, our skilled in-

dividuals, our university graduates, our size, and our existing infrastructure, we could become a sort of centre for technology and training in the long run. We have people here who speak the language of the developed industrial states, who know the systems and have the contacts with people in the industrial and academic worlds of the West. There is a conscious decision and a rationale for engaging in the process of the transfer of technology to Jordan. Some countries, such as China, have not opted for this transfer of technology; they prefer to develop from within their own countries. In Jordan, we have deliberately sought to accelerate the process of the transfer of technology, and the RSS can help this process by being very carefully selective about the kind of technology that Jordan needs, and by our role of adapting this technology to local circumstances."

Dr. Butros again gives the example of the building materials research centre at the RSS (which has recently been designated by the Arab League as a "regional centre"). He says that the application of mass production techniques in building will require standardisation that does not exist today in Jordan. For example, he says, for every new house or building that is to be constructed, the owner and the contractor have to negotiate the sizes of the doors and windows. If these could be standardised, mass production techniques could be employed to make the work faster and more economical. This standardisation is something the RSS could study, and come up with recommendations that would be passed on to the government or to private industry.

Dr. Butros also mentions the traditional use of the local limestone as another area where the RSS could look into techniques to make the production, cutting or transport of the stone cheaper and more efficient, thus providing new technological aids to a local Jordanian technique.

He mentions the increasing amount of work being done by the RSS to test the quality of building materials, such as the output of local quarries. The Natural Resources Authority does not have the labs or the equipment to carry out such testing, but the RSS has both; and it can enter into contractual arrangements to do such testing for both private and state organisations.

In the same field of building materials, an advisory committee has been set up that includes representatives of all agencies in Jordan concerned with the construction sector, including the Housing Bank, the Jordan Valley Commission, the Public Works Ministry, and others. The group meets regularly and acts as the essential link between the RSS and the various organisations in Jordan that stand to benefit directly from RSS capabilities. Similar consultations take place regularly with private companies as the RSS is moving into new fields of contract research or services for private industry.

The latest example is an arrangement by which the RSS will look into the plastic bags to be produced by a new local company, testing the bags for strength, leakage, and waste disposal efficiency, as well as devising an industrial safety programme for the company that will produce the bags.

The RSS is also starting to enter the field of testing to quality in a whole range of local industries, including fuels, paints, plastics, foods and building materials. Again, in the process, it carries out the quality control function that large companies do for themselves in the industrial states, but the small Jordanian firms do not have the capacity to carry out alone.

Dr. Butros stresses that "the role of administration and management in a developing society can become central to the society's successes," and he says this is an area that the RSS is entering slowly. He says: "We cannot have an impact on administration and management before the next five years. The area where we can be extremely helpful now is bringing our rather large capability in the field of computer science to help the process of management. We are now testing some of our administrative theories internally at the RSS by computerising our personnel records, our purchasing methods and our stock-taking. We are also already applying our computer facilities to such things as the Ministry of Education payroll, the University of Jordan registration procedure billings for electricity, phone and water services, and the traffic department licenses records, to name just a few. By administration is not so much a structure as it is the availability of information to planners and decision-makers in an organisation. So we look into such things as the computerisation of filing systems, which aids, and not the answer themselves. We are starting to take a much closer look at the whole area of administrative structures, which will become increasingly important as Jordan develops larger-scale industries and institutions. We will be looking into the question of mid-level managers in the near future, though we're not doing much in the field right now.

"Internally, however, we're reviewing our administrative set-up to make it more people-oriented and more cost-benefit oriented. We're talking to Denver Research Institute about a joint programme to refurbish our own administrative set-up at the RSS, and this will involve some mid-level management training for RSS personnel. We plan to put our own people through the programme in similar research institutes so they can learn the ropes of how to fully operate and manage these kinds of organisations. It is a question of whether we can be of service to the whole country in this field."

(Tomorrow: The RSS faces to-face with its problems -- money, management, manufacturing, marketing and society attitudes.)

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

One Jordanian daily Monday commented on the debate between Mr. Yitzhak Rabin and Mr. Shimon Peres on Sunday, while a second discussed the results of His Majesty King Hussein's speech to the nation, in which he called for a new sense of responsibility among Jordanians.

AL RA'U, under the heading "Rabin or Peres", says that no tangible difference of opinion exists between the two candidates for the leadership of the Labour Party and of Israel. The only thing they have in common, the paper adds, is that both lack political influence, as demonstrated by Mr. Peres' candidacy, which wouldn't have taken place if Mr. Rabin really commanded political power within his party and in the Israeli government.

Attention was mainly focused on the two candidates' conception of the Palestinian problem. While Rabin believes that the refusal of the Arab states to accept the existence of Israel, and not the Palestinians, constitutes the crux of the Middle East problem, Mr. Peres is convinced that the Palestinian question is important and crucial.

The two agree, with slight differences, on the necessity for coexistence with the "Palestinian political reality", the paper says. However, Peres tries to be closer to the U.S. position on the issue, as it was U.S. influence which helped to move Mr. Rabin from the post of ambassador to that of Israel's premier.

Mr. Peres knows that this influence is capable of giving him a push to the top of the Labour Party and then to the premiership. He realises that

the most moderate of the two candidates is the one likely to be closer to Washington and therefore to be helped by it.

The paper concludes by saying that this week's elections will evolve around two candidates who proclaim semi-identical views on the Middle East conflict, but who do not represent a leadership capable of taking decisions.

AL DUSTOUR, under the heading "A campaign against corruption", says that by adopting a series of measures requesting and even warning employees to work conscientiously and to fulfill their duties with a sense of responsibility, the Cabinet has responded swiftly to His Majesty's call for such personal qualities in his speech addressed to the nation on Saturday.

When His Majesty reminds government employees and citizens of public duty and national responsibility, he wants to make sure that the sacrifices of those who passed away are not lost, the paper says.

The "scandal" at Tafleeh is not a limited incident, but is the sign of lethal social ills called indifference, laziness and irresponsibility, the paper adds.

Employees should become aware that such attitudes on their part constitute a crime against the people.

The government has been fair in sounding the alarm prior to using punishment as a deterrent, the paper says.

The present cabinet, known for the honesty of its members, is capable of carrying through its warnings, which if it does, will be done with the approval of all the country, which has long awaited such a campaign of reform.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Channel 3 & 6:	9:20 Reportage
6:00 Quran	10:15 Arabic series
6:05 Cartoons	Channel 6:
6:30 Apple's way	7:30 News in Hebrew
8:00 News in Arabic	7:45 Varieties
Channel 3:	8:30 The last of the Baskets
7:30 Arabic series	9:10 Rich man poor man
8:30 Arabic series	10:00 News in English
	10:15 Hawaii 5-0

AMMAN AIRPORT	
Arrivals:	19:40 Beirut (MEA)
7:30 Baghdad (IA)	09:30 Rome (Alitalia)
8:30 Bangkok, Bahrain	
8:40 Dubai, Abu Dhabi	Departures:
8:50 Kuwait (KAC)	8:00 Beirut
10:30 Beirut	8:30 Baghdad (IA)
10:40 Karachi, Kuwait (BA)	8:45 Beirut (MEA)
11:15 Aleppo, Damascus (SAA)	10:15 Kuwait (KAC)
	10:30 Cairo
12:10 Muscat, Abu Dhabi, Doha (GA)	11:00 Geneva, Brussels, Amsterdam
14:10 Aqaba (SAA)	11:25 London (BA)
17:00 Cairo	12:00 Aqaba (SAA)
17:10 London	13:00 Athens (GA)
17:15 Paris, Rome	14:15 Damascus (SAA)
17:30 Copenhagen, Frankfurt	18:00 Bahrain, Bangkok
18:10 Madrid, Athens	19:30 Abu Dhabi, Karachi
18:15 Amsterdam, Athens (KLM)	21:00 Jeddah
	22:55 Doha, Muscat
	01:15 Dubai (Alitalia)

BBC RADIO	
GMT	14:30 Talkabout
05:00 News; 24 hours	15:00 Radio Newsreel
05:30 Sarah Ward	15:15 Outlook
05:45 The World Today	16:00 News; Commentary
06:00 News; Press Review	16:15 Lord Peter Wimsey: Clouds of Witness
06:30 Folk and Country	
07:00 News; 24 hours	16:45 The World Today
07:30 Sarah Ward	17:00 News
07:45 Money, Money, Money	17:09 Books and Writers
08:00 News	17:30 Take One
08:15 Short Story	17:45 Sports Round-up
08:30 Composer and Interpreter	18:00 News; News about Britain
	18:15 Radio Newsreel
09:00 News; U.K. Press Review	18:30 Talkabout
09:15 The World Today	19:00 Outlook; News Summary
09:30 Financial News	19:42 Stock Market Report
09:45 Look Ahead	19:45 One Piano, Four Hands
10:15 Ulster 77	20:00 News; 24 hours
10:30 Eric Morecambe and Ernie Wise	20:30 The Pleasure's Yours
11:00 News; News about Britain	21:15 Ulster 77
	21:30 Farming World
11:15 Alone I did it	22:00 News; The World Today
11:30 Sports International	22:25 Financial News
12:00 Radio Newsreel	22:35 Asia
12:15 The Pleasure's Yours	22:45 Sports Round-up
12:45 Sports Round-up	23:00 News; Commentary
13:00 News; 24 hours	23:15 Nature Notebook
14:15 Report on Religion	

VOICE OF AMERICA	
GMT	18:00 Special English: News Feature: Science in the News, News Summary
03:00	The Breakfast Show: to 03:30, 04:00, 05:00 and 06:00 GMT
06:30	Regional and Topical Reports, VOA Current News Summary, 03:30, 04:30 and 05:30 GMT
19:30	VOA Magazine, American, Science, Cultural Letters
20:00	Special English: News, Music USA (Jazz)
20:15	VOA World Report
21:00	News Roundup, Reports, Actualities, Opinion, Analyses
21:30	Special English: News, Music USA (Jazz), VOA World Report
17:00	News Roundup, Reports, Actualities, Opinion, Analyses
17:30	Dateline

RADIO JORDAN	
7:00 Morning melodies	16:00 Old favourites
7:30 News	16:30 Easy listening
7:40 News reports	17:00 Mail bag
8:00 Sign off	17:45 Pop session
12:00 Pop session	18:00 News summary
13:00 News summary	18:05 Arabs in history
13:05 Pop session	18:30 Sing it again
14:00 News	18:00 News
14:10 Radio magazine	19:10 News reports
14:30 Special feature	19:30 Sign off
15:00 Concert hour	

EMERGENCIES	
Doctors:	Granada (22668)
Amman:	Khirran (44198)
Mu'een Mahmoud Babia	Adnan (39633)
Samih Aql	
Irbid:	Irbid
Maghayrah	
Taha Abahneh	Zarqa
Annar Eahoum	Hikma
Zarqa:	Wahda
Hisham Hijassat	Taxis:
	Talal (25021)
Pharmacies:	Tower (21028)
Amman:	Khayam (41541)
Ejjah (72068)	Nahda (63003)

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS	
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Fire headquarters	" 22090
First aid, fire, police	" 19
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency)	" 36381-2
Municipal water service (emergency)	" 37111-3
Police headquarters	" 39141
Najfeh, roving patrol rescue police, (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency help	" 21111, 3777

Cultural Centres	
American Centre (USIS)	Tel. 41520
British Council	" 36147-8
French Cultural Centre	" 37090
Goethe Institute	" 41983
Soviet Cultural Centre	" 42303
Amman Municipal Library	" 36111

مركز الصحافة

Cabinet calls for state efficiency

(JNA). — During its session under Prime Minister Badran, the Cabinet reviewed His Majesty Hussein's address to the nation Saturday exhorting civil servants to work efficiently.

The cabinet laid down ways and means to guarantee that administrative machinery and institutions carry out their responsibilities fully so as to ensure that the citizen and his work seriously, by a sense of national duty.

The prime minister also briefed cabinet colleagues on the results of discussions held with King Hussein and the royal court recently visited, namely United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim; Chief of the Middle

East Section at the Soviet Foreign Ministry Mikhail Sytanok; U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance; and French Foreign Minister Louis de Guiringaud.

Arab language body meets

AMMAN (JNA). — A meeting was held Sunday of the Arab Language Institute under the chairmanship of its President, Dr. Abdul Karim Khalifeh. It was decided to call the first plenary session of the institute next Sunday after a royal decree approved the appointment of six new active members: Dr. Ahmed Saidan; Dr. Isbak Al Farhan; Mr. Zouqan Al Hindawi; Mr. Abdul Rahman Bashaq; Dr. Abdul Karim Gharaybeh; and Dr. Mohammed Said Al Nabulsi.

French F.M.'s talks with King Hussein described as frank

(Continued from page 1) President Valery Giscard d'Estaing welcomed the French minister's visit and praised his efforts towards peace in the Middle East.

able time, and expressed the government's readiness to participate in the conference as a frontline state. He emphasized that the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation was essential for the success of the conference.

While official talks between the Jordanian side headed by Mudar Badran and the French side headed by M. de Guiringaud opened Sunday afternoon, the French minister reviewed in detail the aspects of the M.E. problem in the region. They reviewed ways of reconvening the Geneva conference, which Jordan's position on the main elements of the Geneva conference should lead to a just and lasting peace in the area.

The French foreign minister asserted that the views of the French and Jordanian governments were identical on ways of finding a just and lasting peace in the region. He said that France was willing to take part in the Geneva conference if invited and attached importance to the reconvening of the conference at the earliest possible time.



Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hassan Ibrahim Monday meets with a French press delegation accompanying Foreign Minister Louis de Guiringaud. The minister outlined Jordan's attitudes towards the Middle East and current international issues. (JNA photo).

Jordan, Washington universities sign agricultural coop accord

AMMAN (JNA). — The University of Jordan and Washington State University have concluded a cooperation agreement between their faculties of agriculture. The President of the University of Jordan, Dr. Isbak Al Farhan said Sunday evening.

Dr. Al Farhan, who returned here Sunday after a three-week visit to the U.S., added that the agreement covers joint scientific research and the exchange of professors and scientific delegations. It also includes the purchase by the Jordanian faculty of agricultural equipment worth \$2.5 million and the allocation of 10 scholarships to Jordanian students for postgraduate agricultural studies leading to a Ph.D. at Washington State University.

Electricity Authority budget approved

AMMAN (JNA). — The Cabinet approved the 1977 budget of the Jordan Electricity Authority during its session Sunday.

The income of the authority, as shown in the budget, totals JD 11,458,000 consists of foreign loans, JD 7,258,000 local loans and government contributions and the rest direct income from sales.

The Cabinet also approved a government loan of JD 1,000,000 to the authority. The 1977 budget increased by 69 per cent against the 1976 one of JD 11,071,000.

Islamic Development Bank meets in March

AMMAN (JNA). — Jordan will participate at the meeting of the Islamic Development Bank, which will be held during March in Jeddah.

Jordan will be represented at the meeting by Minister of Finance Mohammad Dabbas, Executive Director of the Central Bank Afif Al Hassan and Rajab Al Sa'ad of the Industrial Development Bank.

Dr. Dabbas said that a number of Jordanian economic projects have been submitted to the bank for study and financial aid. The bank's licensed capital amounts to JD 2 billion.

Al Azraq fish farming project approved

AMMAN (JNA). — Minister of Agriculture Salah Jum's Monday announced approval for a fish farming project in the waters of Al Azraq oasis. The project was submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture by a British expert on fisheries and fish farming.

Mr. Jum expressed his readiness to provide the project with the technical and administrative personnel necessary for its implementation as soon as financial resources are available.

The first stage of the project will take three years, during which the whole area will be surveyed and the designs of the pools drawn up. Studies will be conducted on different species of fish in order to choose the

most suitable for farming in the area, which will cover 100 dunams. First phase production will amount to one ton of fish per month during the second and third year and can be raised to 30 tons per annum. The second stage of the project will be to expand the surface area of the pools to 500 dunams. The overall cost of the first stage is estimated at JD144,000.

Exchange Rates

Following are the official exchange rates in effect at the start of today's business day, as set by the Central Bank of Jordan.

The first column is how much you would receive in Jordanian fils for selling a unit of the foreign currency, while the second column denotes how much it would cost you to buy a unit of the foreign currency:

U.K. sterling	588.0	574.0
U.S. dollar	332.0	334.0
German mark	139.2	139.6
French franc	66.7	67.0
Swiss franc	133.5	133.9
Italian lira (for every 100)	37.7	37.9
Saudi riyal	94.5	94.7
Lebanese pound	109.6	110.2
Syrian pound	82.0	82.2
Iraqi dinar	945.0	950.0
Kuwaiti dinar	1,165	1,160
Egyptian pound	467.0	472.0
Libyan dinar	790.0	805.0
UAE dirham	85.5	86.0

Int'l aviation meeting opens Cairo session

AMMAN (JNA). — The International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) began its two-day meeting in Cairo Monday to discuss ways of ensuring direct radio communications and safety of air traffic in the participating countries.

Delegation from Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Egypt, as well as representatives of the Arab Countries' Civil Aviation Council and the International Association of Travel Agents (IATA) attended.

The Jordanian delegation was headed by Deputy Director General of the Department of Civil Aviation Elias Aghabi. Meanwhile, the Joint Jordanian-Syrian Civil Aviation Committee will meet in Damascus Tuesday to discuss the introduction of amendments to the civil aviation law in the two countries.

NATIONAL NOTES

* AMMAN. — Meetings of the joint Jordanian-Syrian Committee for Development and Planning opened in Damascus today. The committee will discuss principles of development strategy and study the economic feasibility of joint enterprises between Jordan and Syria.

* AMMAN. — A Royal Decree was issued Monday approving the appointment of Mr. Murtasem Al Bilbetsi as Jordan's Ambassador to Switzerland.

* AMMAN. — The Executive Committee of the General Secretariat of the Arab Red Crescent and Red Cross Societies is due to begin its meeting in Geneva on Feb. 25 to discuss matters related to the ninth conference of the Arab Red Crescent Societies.

* AMMAN. — The director general of the Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development will arrive in Amman early in March for talks with officials of the Agriculture Ministry on cooperation between the two sides and the organization's undertaking to study several Jordanian agricultural projects.

* AMMAN. — A delegation representing the Jordanian Chamber of Commerce and businessmen will visit India early in March to look into India's industrial and commercial achievements. The visit will be at the invitation of export organisations in India.

What's Going On

A film entitled Wilder Reiter GmbH, 8:00 p.m. at the Goethe Institute, Jabal Amman.

The British Council presents a lecture by Dr. Mohammad Asfour of the English Department of the University of Jordan on "The Influence of English Poets on Modern Arabic Poets". 6:30 p.m., at the British Council, Jabal Amman.

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London to Calcutta rail link takes shape as Orient Express due for scrapyard

The Orient Express, the Paris-Istanbul train beloved of novel writers, is to cease to run from May. Yet the orient is becoming more accessible by rail from Europe than ever before. The trains of the future may well continue right to the heart of the mysterious orient and not stop merely at its gateway.

For one further development has opened the way for the journey on to India. Improvement in relations between Pakistan and India has led to the reopening of the rail-link between Lahore and Amritsar, which had been closed since the two countries went to war in 1971.

The link was always there, part of the huge British-built railway network that encom-

passes the entire subcontinent and made it possible for journeys to start from Calcutta in the east and proceed up to the northwest frontier with Afghanistan.

Since July the link has been reopened and trains once more steam across the frontier.

Afghanistan, which lies balanced on the northwest frontier, is that curious phenomenon, a country without a rail-

way. (On mainland Asia the only other sizeable country without any railway is Laos, though Nepal has very little; these countries also have in common that they are landlocked.)

An interesting sideline to the railway link-up is that Afghanistan is contemplating retiring from last exclusive league by building itself a railway. The scheme is outlined in the recently announced five-year plan.

If the Afghan railway comes to see the light of day it would replace the inhospitable Baluchistan line as the mainline, connecting with the Iranian system at Meshad and with the Pakistani network at Quetta.

Though the final route has yet to be determined, the obvious benefit to Afghanistan of speeding the flow of goods from the Iranian port of Bandar Abbas and the Pakistani port of Karachi suggests it will be given high priority. Whether or not the Afghan railway materialises, it is likely that the way will be clear by the end of the decade for through trains from Britain to Calcutta.

Calculta. The only "breaks" in the permanent way will be at the English Channel, the Bosphorus - which separates Istanbul's Sirkeci and Haydarpasa stations and Lake Van - but at each of these crossings carriages are shunted onto rail ferries.

And a channel tunnel between Britain and France, a second Bosphorus bridge to take the railway, and a Lake Van by-pass are all being considered as possible schemes for the future.

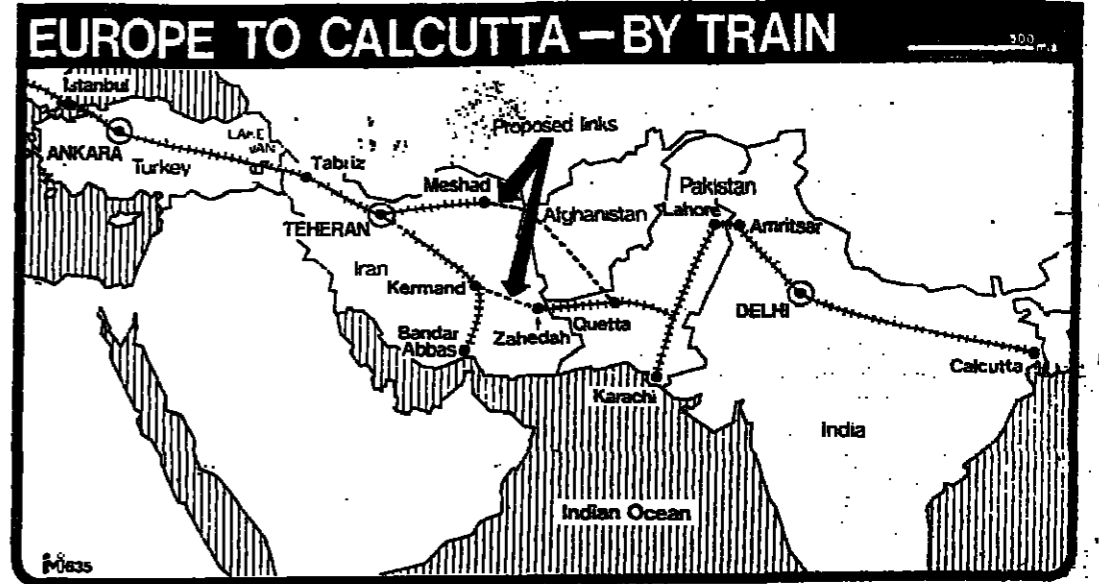
So when the Orient Express goes out of service in May after 94 years it may herald the end of one era in rail travel but will be giving way to another in which intercontinental rail service become common.

It is not likely that passenger expresses will ever ply the 10,000 kms from London to Calcutta - the demand for such a through service would be confined to a few enthusiasts. But the advantage of packing wagons in Europe for destinations in the subcontinent gives the link-up a purpose which could make its Eurasian rail-link as famous as its northern, trans-Siberian counterpart.

Unfortunately, the Eurasian Express comes to a halt at the buffers in Calcutta. The political status quo east of there rules out any imminent prospects for the subcontinent to link up with the Vietnam-China-Korea-Mongolia railway network. And even the wartime railway built with great loss of life by allied prisoners of war between Burma and Thailand has disappeared back into the jungle.

So it is likely to be many years yet before the departure indicator at Hong Kong station is able to offer trains to London via either the northern route through China, Mongolia and the Soviet Union (which is at present feasible) or the southern route through Vietnam, Thailand, Burma and India onwards.

LONDON (Gemin) - It is probable that before the end of the decade a passenger from London (or Dublin, or Edinburgh) will be able to journey by train as far as Calcutta without ever leaving the railway system. It would take



quite a long time - perhaps two weeks - and cost a small fortune, but it would at least be a possible means of reaching the Indian subcontinent.

However, this link-up of the European and Asian railway networks will have been achieved for different reasons than those which once made the Orient Express the most splendid way of traversing Europe.

No longer do European nobility travel in style by rail when the journey can be done so much quicker by air. Instead, Europe's international trains are these days more concerned with the transportation of goods, and of migrant workers returning home for annual leave.

Over the years the changing ethos of the railways and changing clientele of the passenger wagons has been reflected in a general run-down of service available. The Orient Express has long since lost its restaurant car, but then few passengers these days travel the entire three-day journey from Paris to Istanbul.

But as the passenger traffic by rail across borders has declined, the flow of goods has increased. Much of this moves by road, and huge juggernauts

can be seen awaiting customs clearance at every frontier between Britain and Iran.

But the sheer inadequacy of roads has led to increased use of the railways. The breakthrough in the Eurasia rail-link came four years ago when Turkish railways linked up with Iran's railways by way of a ferry across Lake Van in eastern Turkey.

Now a weekly express takes three days and three nights to cover the 3,000 kms from Istanbul to the Iranian capital, Tehran.

The line still needs improvement - on the Turkish side consideration is being given to a loop to avoid the 100 km lake crossing, and in Iran work will start shortly on completing a doubling of the line between Tabriz and Tehran.

Iran is also hard at work on extensions to its rail network south and eastwards. As the existing system forges its way to the important Gulf port of Bandar Abbas, another branch is planned to head east to Zahedan, the railhead in Iran of the Pakistani railway.

The remaining 400 km stretch of the Kermant-Zahedan link-up, and thus the formal connection of the Indo-Pakistan railway systems with the European ones, is due by the end

of Iran's current five-year plan in 1979.

From Zahedan eastwards the journey is plain sailing. Or rather it would be but for the fact that the first 500 kms run across the bleak wilderness of Baluchistan from where banditry has not been entirely eliminated.

Fortunately, though, attacks on the once-weekly train which plies between Zahedan and Quetta are rare, unless they be by customs officers who know the train as a favourite means of smuggling goods between the two countries. Then again the occasional cholera outbreak in Pakistan causes the Iranian authorities to close the border temporarily to one and all.

But after Quetta the trains are more frequent and the perils less real. In Pakistan, as in India, the railway station is a hive of activity where a whole community seems to exist and where trains come and go bound for destinations so far distant that in European terms they would be several countries away.

Few passengers travel till the journey's end, though if they should so wish the trains are there to transport them to Karachi, to Lahore or onwards into India.

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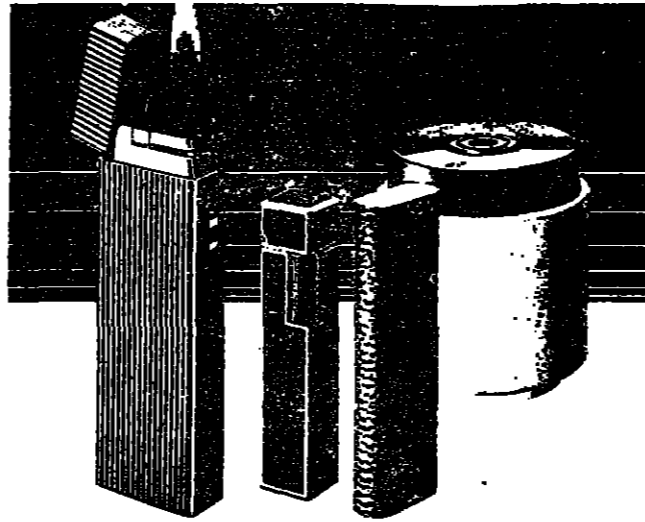
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1. Deluxe furnished apt. with two bedrooms, a sitting room, salon, two bathrooms, kitchen, garage and garden. Location: Jabal Luweibdeh, behind the Directorate of Public Security.
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Near 2nd Circle - Phone 41986.
A class for beginners will be started in the House of Languages at 4:30 on Tuesday, Feb. 22nd.

CARS FOR SALE

- 1977 Chevrolet Nova: Automatic, six-cylinder, customs paid.
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- Please contact Tel. 24178 or 56986.

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OPEN FOR LUNCHEONS AND DINNERS DAILY FOR RESERV CALL

TEL: 44880

INVITATION FOR TENDER NO. TCC 2/77 FOR THE JORDAN TELEX NETWORK

a. The Telecommunications Corporation of Jordan invites the submission of tenders for the procurement, installation, testing and commissioning of equipment as a turn key project for the Jordan Telex Network. The equipment comprises of (1) an international electronic telex exchange in Amman and (2) twelve (12) time division multiplexers, six (6) in Amman, two (2) in Irbid, three (3) in Aqaba and one (1) in Zarqa, and (3) sixty six (66) voice frequency carrier telegraph (VFCT) channels, thirty six (36) in Amman, twenty four (24) in Irbid, four (4) in Madaba and two (2) in Jerash. Tenderers are kindly requested to offer for all three (3) items as an integrated turn key project as per the proposed plan in the specifications. Tenderers shall include for the training of corporation staff in the operation and maintenance of the offered equipment. Tenderers shall make proposals for this training, that is, duration, number of staff, location etc.

b. Agents can obtain the tender documents from the Telecommunications Corporation in Amman for a price of (J.D. 100) at the following address:

Secretary of Tender Committee
Telecommunications Corporation
Jabal Amman - Third Circle
P.O. Box 1689 - Telex: 1221
Cable: Jortel Amman
AMMAN - JORDAN

c. The latest date of submission of proposals to the Telecommunications Corporation Headquarters in Amman is: 14:00 hours, Saturday 16th, April 1977.

d. The tender documents consists of the following materials:

1. General conditions of contract.
2. Specification CTE1 - General requirements applicable to all tenders.
3. Specification CTE2 - Requirements for an electronic telex exchange in Amman, Jordan.
4. Specification CTE3 - Requirements for voice frequency carrier telegraph (VFCT) equipment in Jordan.
5. Specification CTE4 - Requirements for time division multiplex telegraph equipment in Jordan.

e. All bidders will be required to deliver a bank guarantee of 5% of the bid as a bidding bond.

f. Proposals should be submitted in three copies each in a closed envelope sealed with red wax and its cover labelled with the words: "Proposal for the Jordan Telex Network, Tender No. TCC 2/77." Original, 1st copy and 2nd copy.

g. Any subsequent amendments will automatically be forwarded to purchasers of the tender documents.

Eng. MOH'D SHAHID ISMAIL
Director General
Telecommunications Corporation
Amman - Jordan

هنا نحن التصل

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

leather vulnerable. North calls.

NORTH
♠ A 4 2
♥ J 7
♦ A Q J 8 7 2
♣ 7 6

EAST
♠ K 10 7 5 3
♥ 10 8 6 4 2
♦ K 5
♣ Q J 10 2

SOUTH
♠ 9 8 6
♥ A Q 9 3
♦ 10 6
♣ A 8 4 3

he bidding:
North East South West
Pass 1♥ 1♠
Pass 2NT Pass
NT Pass Pass Pass
opening lead: Five of ♣.

England's Martin Hoffman regarded as one of the world's great duplicate players. In a recent Philip Morris European Cup tournament, however, he lost this battle with Karl Rohan, president of the Austrian Bridge Federation.

When North could rebid his diamonds freely, Hoffman ventured two no trump to the South cards despite the fact that he had no spade stopper. With a good six-card suit and the ace of the enemy suit, North's raise to game was faultless.

West led a spade and the opponents continued the suit until declarer won the ace on the third round.

This attack was doubly devastating because it not only established West's long suit, it also knocked out the only

entry to dummy's long diamonds.

Hoffman led the jack of hearts from dummy, hoping to coax a cover from East—if East showed up with the king of hearts, the odds on West holding the king of diamonds for his overall would be improved. When East followed with a low heart, declarer began to like the hand less and less.

He rose with the ace of hearts and could find no alternative to the diamond finesse. He ran the ten of diamonds and East played low smoothly. Declarer knew there was no possibility that he was being "taken," but to lead a diamond to the ace on the second round was strictly an anti-percentage play, especially since East could have won the king of diamonds and put West in with a heart to cash two spades to defeat the contract one trick.

Therefore, declarer repeated the diamond finesse, and the roof fell in. East gathered in the king, and four-diamond tricks in dummy withered on the vine. Declarer had to be satisfied with three aces, the ten of diamonds and the queen of hearts for down four and an absolute bottom on the board.

THE PAGE FIVE FEATURE PHOTO



HAVE A LIGHT -- Robots can do all sorts of things -- such as giving you a light. This programme-controlled industrial robot, designed at the Moscow Metal-Cutting Lathes Research Institute, has the difficult task of operating several lathes at the same time.

Work will continue in the Soviet Union on creating robot systems for machines to mechanize and automate the complete technological cycle at factories -- beginning with the raw materials and ending with the finished product.

Your Daily HOROSCOPE

from the CARROLL RIGHTER INSTITUTE

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A good day to consider from all angles just what new plans of action you would like to put into effect. Discuss with those with whom you want to be allied in the future the best plan of action. An interesting day and evening to use the intellectual phases of your mind.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) An ideal day to gain the personal goals that mean a great deal to you. Get into group affairs that interest you. Don't forget to pay important bills in the morning and collect money due you.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Take time to be yourself for a while and you can come up with fine inspiring ideas to make your future much brighter. Being more affectionate with a loved one brings good results.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You have ideas that should be studied from a different angle and then they bring success. Plan how to please good friends and come to a better understanding today; enjoy hobbies together.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Plan how to gain more public esteem and improve your position in the world at large. Show more appreciation for bigwigs. You can handle a credit matter wisely and efficiently now.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Look at current interests from a different angle and you make real progress with them now. Talk with persons whose experiences have been different from your own and get good ideas from them.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Plan to carry through with agreements you have made with others and use some new method for best success. Get your accounts in better order. Much happiness possible with a loved one this evening.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Decide what your true position is with partners and plan how to have better relations in the future. Try to understand an important public matter better. Avoid one who annoys you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You have every potential for improving the quality and output of your regular work and getting more cooperation from co-workers, too. Plan how to improve health. Avoid a quibbler.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Take time for recreation during spare time and enjoy congenials. You have fine creative ideas that should be put in operation quickly. Avoid one who does not understand you and could give you trouble.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Gain more goodwill from those who dwell with you by being more thoughtful and kind with them. Investigate new activities that could prove lucrative for you. Avoid one who has an eye on your assets.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Take those little trips and gain the data you need at this time. Take care of important correspondence. Drive with care.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Figure out just where you do stand on monetary matters and how you can become more affluent. Plan needed repairs to property. Avoid a spendthrift who can get you to spend too much.

GRAFFITI

...HALLO!
IS THIS 67171-2-3-47
I'D LIKE TO RESERVE
A SPACE FOR AN AD IN
THE JORDAN TIMES...

TIP TO WIVES:
HUSBANDS
OFTEN BUY
YOU PERFUME
TO COVER UP
BEING SKUNKS

LAUGHS FROM EUROPE

ENGLAND
Walker

"Interesting, isn't it? Our new neighbor trains elephants for circus work."

THE BETTER HALF By Barnes

"My wife has issued more warnings about smoking than the surgeon general."

TONIGHT'S T.V. FEATURES

APPLE'S WAY :
PEN PAL
On Patricia's insistence, her parents collect the necessary money to bring her Greek pen pal friend to the U.S. for an operation of her foot.

RICH MAN POOR MAN :
CHAPTER 8
Tom disguised as a sailor, escapes from the U.S. and the gang that threatens him. Rudy persistently continues his courtship of Julie.

HAWAII 5-0 :
DOUBLE EXPOSURE
A young female photographer is pursued by gang which tries to kill her as she had by accident taken a photo of their leader.

MAKE THE JORDAN TIMES WORK FOR YOU

An advertisement in the Jordan Times will be seen by some 10,000 people in Jordan, Syria and Lebanon. Don't you have anything to say to them?
To spread your word, contact the Jordan Times advertising department by phone at 67171, or in person at the Jordan Times - Al Ra'i building, on University Road.

OUT AND ABOUT

THE CROWN ROTISSERIE
Hotel Jordan Interecontinental. Open daily for Executive Luncheon 1-3 p.m. Special International Buffet on Sundays. Dinner with live music from 7 p.m. to midnight. For reservation please call 41361 ext. 5.

THE DIPLOMAT
First Circle, Jabal Amman. Tel. 25592.
Open from 7 a.m. to 1 a.m. Restaurant, coffee-shop, snack bar and patisserie. Oriental and European specialties.

QUICK MEAL
Restaurants for broasted chicken and light snacks. Take home, lunch or dinner. Jabal Amman, First Circle, Tel. 21083, Jabal Al Luweibdeh, Hawuz Circle, Tel. 50646, Jabal Al Hussein, near Jerusalem Cinema, Tel. 21781. Also in Zarqa and Irbid.

CHINESE RESTAURANT
First Chinese restaurant in Jordan. First Circle, Jabal Amman, near the Ahlyiah School or CMS. Tel. 39908. Open daily from noon to 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to midnight. Also take home service-order by phone.

366 003 STARBUCKS
Firas Wings Hotel, Jabal Al Luweibdeh, Tel. 22103/4. Choice of THREE set menus daily for lunch, and a la carte. Open 12-3 p.m. and 7-12 p.m. Specialty: steaks.

For advertising in above columns contact "Sout Wa Soura" Tel. 38869. Open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4-6 p.m.

PEANUTS

COULD YOU REPEAT THE QUESTION, MA'AM?
YES, MA'AM... I UNDERSTAND.
"WHAT WAS THE AUTHOR'S PURPOSE IN WRITING THIS STORY?"
"MAYBE HE NEEDED THE MONEY!"

THE FLINTSTONES

OUR BACKYARD IS ABOUT 50' X 70'...
THAT'S COME TO ABOUT \$48.00!
WHAT? \$48.00? ...
THAT'S RIGHT, BIG FELLA!
BET YOU THOUGHT IT'D BE DIRT-CHEAP, DIDN'T YOU?
FOR SALE GRADE A TOP-SOIL

MUTT AND JEFF

YOU KNOW, TODAY IS GEORGE WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY!
I'M LIKE GEORGE! I NEVER TOLD A LIE!
HOW CAN YOU FIGURE THAT AND LOOK ME IN THE FACE?
I'M USED TO YOUR FACE!
YOU'RE NOT THE LEAST BIT LIKE WASHINGTON!
GOSH! THEN OUR COUNTRY IS PROGRESSING!
NOW ALMOST EVERYBODY CAN TELL ONE!

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LAURR
REGIM
YERKUT
CHOTLE

There'll be no elections while I'm in charge!

HE "DREW THE LINE" AT FREE POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS!

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answers here: (Answers tomorrow)

Sunday's Jumbles: STEED RIGOR UNLOAD CASHW Answer: What a versatile chef might be expected to have when preparing food--A "WIDE RANGE"

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

32. Gazelle
33. Propeller
34. Friend: French
35. Peruse
36. Small children
38. End of a golf club
40. Heavens
42. Efficacious
46. Dill
49. Summer-in France
51. Indian
52. Venetian traveler
53. Appearance
54. Hyson
55. Slip
56. Scoundrel

DOWN

1. Resting
2. Signal
3. Saracen
4. Poignant
5. Routine
6. Potluck
7. Candia
8. Barbarian
9. Esperanto
10. Footlike part
11. Coffee-maker
20. Choose
22. Block
24. Historical epoch
25. New Zealand
26. Blue
27. Cornered
28. Skate
29. Nettle
31. Qualified
34. Consult
35. Turmeric
37. Preclude
39. Public
41. Time unit
43. Paving tool
44. Roman road
45. Faculty head
46. Handy
47. Connective
48. Man's name
50. Aunt Spanish

time 20 min. AP Newsfeatures 2-22

Israel's Labour Party convention chooses between Rabin, Peres today

TEL AVIV, Feb. 21 (AFP). — The battle for leadership of the ruling Labour Party will end here tomorrow when a national nominating convention picks a standard-bearer for the May legislative elections.

Supporters of both Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Defence Minister Shimon Peres — his challenger for the top spot — were today claiming the backing of a majority of the 3,000 delegates.

But most analysts agree the race was too close to call and would probably swing on the votes of 200-300 undecided members of the party, which has dominated politics here for nearly 30 years.

General elections were scheduled for May 17 following the resignation in December of Mr. Rabin's government.

The duel for leadership of the party, observers here said, hinges more on personality, style and charisma than on substantive issues.

Little attention has been paid to ideology or political platforms, they added, noting that neither candidate can be neatly tagged as a "hawk" or a "dove" on the Israeli-Arab dispute.

Mr. Peres, an ally of Gen. Moshe Dayan, has the reputation of a hard-liner, especially on future territorial concessions

on the occupied West Bank. But among the defence minister's most active supporters are leading "dove" Labourites including former Foreign Minister Abba Eban and Knesset member Yossi Sarid.

Mr. Peres has referred to himself as a moderate throughout the campaign, stressing the need for a man to head the party for it to remain the dominant force in Israeli politics.

Supporters of Mr. Rabin have replied that the prime minister was the new man and Mr. Peres, the old.

The prime minister, they point out, entered political life three years ago while Mr. Peres has been active for 20 years on the national scene.

Backers of Mr. Rabin were also touting the prime minister's experience as Israeli ambassador to Washington, claiming it would be crucial in coming months as moves for peace talks pick up steam.

Like Mr. Peres, the prime minister was being supported by a combination of so-called hawks and doves.

Among the hard-liners backing Mr. Rabin were former prime Minister Golda Meir while moderates included one-time Secretary General of the Israeli Trade Union Confederation Yitzhak Ben Aharon.

The prime minister also benefits from support of the left. Indeed, the leftwing Mapam, a Labour Party ally in the governing Labour alignment, has threatened to withdraw its support if Mr. Peres is chosen as standard-bearer by the convention.

The prime minister also enjoys the backing of the collective farms known as kibbutzim as well as a majority of the party's rank-and-file.

Kuwaiti oil minister: OPEC price split will be resolved soon

KUWAIT, Feb. 21 (R). — Kuwait Oil Minister Abdul Muttalib Al Kazimi was quoted today as saying he was optimistic the OPEC oil price split would be resolved shortly.

In an interview with the bi-monthly journal Al Kuwaiti, the minister also dismissed speculation that the two-tier oil price system in force since the beginning of the year marked the first step towards the disintegration of OPEC, the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

"The differences within OPEC are not about principles or aims but simply over how big an increase there should be in the price of oil," he said.

Mr. Al Kazimi described these differences as a passing cloud. "The situation is not as painted by OPEC's enemies who would like to see its demise because it represents a challenge and an example which might be followed by the rest of the developing nations in their struggle for a better life," he said.

"I am optimistic. I do not expect the present situation to last long and real efforts are being exerted to resolve this problem," he said.

He added that there were signs a solution will be found shortly.

Kuwait was among the majority of OPEC states who decided to raise prices in two stages this year by 15 per cent. The split resulted from the refusal of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, who between them account for a third of OPEC oil production, to implement the majority decision. They opted instead for a five per cent increase.

Gandhi's re-election is "dark night" for democracy, says Indian opposition

NEW DELHI, Feb. 21 (R). — Indians face a "dark night of decades without democracy" if they re-elect Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, a breakaway faction of her ruling Congress Party told voters today.

Issuing its campaign manifesto for next month's election, Congress for Democracy (C-FD) promised that if elected it would free all political prisoners, restore civil liberties and freedom of the press and end the emergency rule which Mrs. Gandhi imposed 19 months ago.

Congress for Democracy is headed by Mr. Jagjivan Ram who was Food Minister and Mrs. Gandhi's most senior colleague until he defected from the Congress Party this month.

The congress defectors appear, however, to be having differences with the Janata (People's) Party — a combination of the leading opposition groups — over who will contest which seats.

Both are pledged to avoid contests against each other, so they won't split the vote against the ruling party.

Mr. Ram said in the northeastern city of Patna yesterday his party would consider a merger with the Janata Party after the election.

The C-FD manifesto was released at a New Delhi news conference by the party's General Secretary Hemwant Nandan Bahuguna, former Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh.

It warned voters that next month's election was the last chance for India to revert to democracy. "If this occasion is lost, if we fail to discharge our obligation correctly, a dark night will descend on our people which will continue for decades to come."

The C-FD said its foreign policy would include friendship with India's neighbours Pakistan and Bangladesh.

On the home front, the party advocated curbs on monopolies and promised free prices for basic commodities and fair prices for farmers. It said it would provide houses and land for the poor, cheap credit and fair opportunities and protection for minorities.

Meanwhile, an estimated 15,000 to 20,000 persons were still being held in various parts of India, the newspaper Indian Express reported yesterday.

It quoted opposition parties as saying that some of their leaders were "still detained despite official claims that they had been released."

Wide-spread arrests were carried out in India when the prime minister declared a state of emergency in June, 1975.

The Government has announced it was freeing political prisoners and preparing to hold elections.

But the Indian Express said authorities had delayed the release of some prisoners in the wake of the stiff competition from the opposition coalition of Mr. Ram.

The Indian Express said it had received "numerous letters" from persons being detained "without any specific charges."

Indian Defence Minister Bansi Lal has apologised to voters in his home state of Haryana for excesses committed in the government's mass sterilisation drive last year.

"Never in future would any compulsion be allowed to be used for the purpose," he told a public meeting Saturday in Ambala city. "Forgive us for our past mistakes and we will be careful in the future."

The defence minister, former chief minister of Haryana state which borders New Delhi, was one of the main proponents of the crash family planning campaign in which some seven million Indians were sterilised over an eight-month period.

The campaign has now become a major issue in the general elections across northern India where the alleged use of force in recruiting mass sterilisation operations sparks riots in several centres.

The Congress Party manifesto contains a specific assurance that there will be no element of compulsion in the family planning movement and the sterilisation campaign has now been brought almost to halt.

Italian gunman wanted to trade hostages for Pope Paul

SALUZZO, Italy, Feb. 21 (R). — An armed and wounded Communist gunman gave himself up to police here early today after holding a family of five hostage for more than 16 hours, police said.

Mr. Franco Bartoli, 29, had said during the siege he would release the three children of the captive family only in exchange for Pope Paul or Interior Minister Francesco Cossiga.

Mr. Bartoli, jailed for armed robbery and possessing arms, was one of three men who tried to escape from Saluzzo's medieval castle prison yesterday morning. A guard spotted them and opened fire with a sub-machine gun when they ignored his orders to stop.

The two others were recaptured, one wounded, but Mr. Bartoli, hit in the leg and the shoulder managed to reach the

home of Mr. Giuseppe Ariardo, where he berded the family into a bedroom at pistol-point.

Later, in a radio interview he described himself as a Communist militant, and said he would only exchange the children, for Pope Paul or Signor Cossiga.

At the same time, inside the prison a group of eight other prisoners seized a wander and three prisoners and demanded that Mr. Bartoli should be allowed to make his getaway.

Police raged the Ariardo house and a magistrate started lengthy negotiations. Mr. Bartoli's mother was brought to the scene to try to persuade him to surrender.

Mr. Bartoli gave himself up at 2.30 a.m. today shortly after his comrades inside the prison had released their hostages. He was carried away to hospital on a stretcher.

Smith to ask parliament to approve changes in Rhodesian race laws as nationalists recruit new guerrillas

SALISBURY, Feb. 21, (R). — Prime Minister Ian Smith said last night he would ask parliament next week to approve major relaxations in Rhodesia's race discrimination laws.

In a television interview, Mr. Smith said his government was committed to the removal of racial discrimination and "this decision is going to be made next week."

He said legislation to be introduced in parliament would be designed to end racial discrimination in certain areas.

But he said he could not go into details because the legislation was confidential until it reached parliament.

Mr. Smith indicated that his government had considered the removal of all racial discrimination but said this posed serious problems — particularly in the "protection" of black areas.

The big question is whether Mr. Smith will propose dismantling of the Land Tenure Act, which divides the country into black and white areas for property ownership and rights. The act is a cornerstone of the policy of the ruling Rhodesian Front.

Meanwhile, official Rhodesian sources said yesterday they believed the Zambia-based Zimbabwe African Peoples' Union (ZAPU) was engaged in a new drive for recruits in Rhodesia and admitted that what they called abductions in Rhodesia were no longer a rarity.

ZAPU leader Joshua Nkomo's popular political voice is strongest among the Matabele people in the south and southwest of Rhodesia, and the sources believed this was the reason the area had become a recruiting ground for ZAPU guerrillas.

But a Rhodesian government spokesman Saturday flatly denied a report in the Johannesburg Daily Mail that nearly 1,000 school children had gone to Botswana from southwest Rhodesia in the previous five days.

The spokesman said there had been "the odd abduction" — but certainly not on this scale.

A Rhodesian government spokesman admitted Saturday for the first time that Rhodesia had taken action inside Botswana. The spokesman said a white police detective inspector was killed when some of its police crossed into Botswana on a "hot pursuit" operation.

Two weeks ago, some 400 black schoolchildren from the Masama mission school crossed into Botswana. The Rhodesian government said they were abducted by guerrillas but Botswana said they went willingly.

The Daily Mail report, from a correspondent in the Botswana border town of Francistown, said 925 Rhodesian youngsters were living in squalor in a transit camp awaiting flights to Lusaka, Zambia.

The report did not indicate whether the children had been abducted by guerrillas. It said some of the children were still wearing school uniform.

ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS NEWS

Iran's oil troubles force cut in defence budget

TEHRAN, Feb. 21, (R). — Iran, which increased the price of its oil by 10 per cent in January, has slashed \$3 billion off its defence spending and cut foreign aid to cushion the impact of declining oil revenues.

But the record budget totaling nearly \$50 billion announced yesterday included a decision to raise loans on the domestic and foreign markets to ensure continued economic growth. In the current and previous fiscal years, Iran had sought loans only abroad.

The defence allocation was reduced to about \$8 billion after the Shah had ordered a final \$3.2-billion cut. Dr. Abdul Majid Majidi, head of the Budget and Planning Organisation told a press conference.

Earlier Prime Minister Amir Abbas Hoveyda said the defence cut did not undermine the importance of defending Iran's frontiers and national interests.

"What the new budget portends is simply a review of positions under the present circumstances and not a cut in our resolution, and this should not be misunderstood by friend or foe," he said.

Iran's petroleum exports have been declining since Jan. 1 when prices rose by 10 per cent in line with a decision by a majority of the 13 members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

Saudi Arabia, one of the world's largest oil producers, and the United Arab Emirates alone decided to limit their 1977 price increase to five per cent.

The record \$49.173 billion budget was delayed nearly six weeks to revise expenditure after oil exports dropped.

Budget revenue was estimated at \$47.434 billion against \$45 billion for the fiscal year now ending.

Ras Al Khaimah may start oil production, exports next year

BAHRAIN, Feb. 21 (R). — Ras Al Khaimah, one of the seven Gulf states forming the United Arab Emirates (UAE), hopes to start producing and exporting oil next year, the Gulf Weekly Mirror said here yesterday.

It quoted the state's ruler, Sheikh Saqr Ibn Mohammed Al Qasbi, as saying in an interview that although much still depended on present and future exploration, it was hoped that facilities for production and exportation of oil would be ready by 1978.

It added that Sheikh Saqr also revealed that tests had shown the oil discovered last September was one of the lightest in the area.

The oil discovered will yield 4,000 barrels per day, the paper said.

Egypt to sign trade protocol with China

CAIRO, Feb. 21 (AFP). — An Egyptian delegation is scheduled to leave for Peking next month to sign a trade protocol, between China and Egypt, it was learned here yesterday.

Under the terms of the agreement, Egypt was to import from China Foodstuffs, tobacco, machinery, clothes, paper and office items. In exchange it will sell China cotton, rice, peanuts, phosphates, drugs and linen.

On its way back from Peking, the Egyptian delegation is expected to sign a similar agreement with Vietnam. Egypt was to export cotton threads and fabrics to Vietnam which, in exchange, would sell zinc, lead, tin, lumber, tobacco, tea, coal and bamboo stalks.

The protocol to be signed in Peking provides for a 33 per cent increase in trade between the two countries bringing the volume of trade up to some \$80 million.

Details of the agreement to be signed in Hanoi have not been given.

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ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

CAIRO, Feb. 21 (AFP). — The Arab Bank for African Economic Development is raising member states' contributions by 50 per cent to take the bank's capital to \$700 million, the Middle East News Agency reported here. The increase was designed to boost African development programmes and thus help raise living standards. There are 18 Arab member states in the bank.

TEL AVIV, Feb. 21 (R). — Israel's 800 firemen yesterday joined 35,000 other striking workers in a fresh outbreak of Labour unrest. The firemen said they would deal with fires but not with other routine tasks. Negotiations between 15,000 engineers and architects, as well as 20,000 economists, psychologists and other university-trained workers, broke down yesterday resulting in demonstrations by both groups outside the Knesset. All the strikes are over demands for higher wages because of spiralling inflation.

TOKYO, Feb. 21 (R). — A high-powered Japanese economic mission, led by Mr. Shigeo Nagano, President of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, returned here today after a tour of seven oil-producing countries in the Middle East including United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia and Iran. The mission had talks with leaders of those countries on oil and Japan's economic cooperation in the region.

JEDDAH, Feb. 21 (R). — The Premier of the Australian State of Queensland, Mr. John Bjelke-Petersen, arrived yesterday in Riyadh to try to convince the Saudis to buy his state's products. Australian embassy sources in Jeddah declined to give details of the visit except that he was pursuing the interests of Queensland.

TEHRAN, Feb. 21 (R). — Herr Berthold Beitz, General Manager of the West German Krupp industrial group, has had talks with Iranian Prime Minister Abbas Hoveyda on possible joint industrial projects in other countries, the newspaper Kayhan International said today. It said Herr Beitz met the Shah of Iran to give a report on the company, in which Iran holds a 25.1 per cent stake. Discussions with Mr. Hoveyda and members of the cabinet covered possible cooperation in investment, petrochemicals, water desalination and railways in other countries, the newspaper reported. Iran last week signed a barter deal with Krupp, agreeing to supply oil in exchange for industrial equipment.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

PLAINS, Georgia, Feb. 21 (R). — The pastor of President Carter's hometown church yesterday announced his resignation after members of his congregation called for his dismissal. The Rev. Bruce Edwards, 32, blamed the dismissal move on his consistent opposition to the Plains Baptist Church's former policy prohibiting black membership.

LONDON, Feb. 21 (AFP). — Britain is weighing a plan to give weapons training to women soldiers, the Sunday Times reported yesterday. The Times said the Defence Ministry was currently studying an army report suggesting that its 4,000 women soldiers take target practice with pistols and semi-machine guns. To date, members of the women's Royal Army Corps, created in 1949, were employed only in secretary pools, mess operations and as drivers.

CAIRO, Feb. 21 (R). — Crown Prince Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz, Saudi Arabia's First Deputy Prime Minister, is to visit the United States on March 14 for discussions on the Middle East, Egypt's Middle East News Agency reported today. The visit, at the invitation of President Jimmy Carter, was arranged during a visit to Riyadh last week by U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance.

PRETORIA, Feb. 21 (AFP). — The South African Roman Catholic Church will formally approach the government to amend the constitution so that students of all races can attend the church's schools, it was announced here today. The move followed a meeting between the administrator of Transvaal Province, Sybrand van Niekerk, and a Catholic delegation to discuss a clash which started when schools last month illegally admitted non-white students.

NEW YORK, Feb. 21 (R). — A bomb exploded last night outside an office of the IBM Corporation in central Manhattan. No one was injured in the blast. Police said the bomb was a small one and the only damage was a smashed window. Eyewitnesses reported seeing three men running down a street in the area just before the bomb went off. Last Friday night, two powerful blasts ripped through the Chrysler and Gulf and Western buildings in Manhattan.

LONDON MARKET REPORT

Mining shares were the best in an otherwise bleak stock exchange Monday, helped by the higher bullion price.

Gilt edged back as hopes faded of an early return to the downward trend in interest rates. Elsewhere industrial leaders were marked down at the beginning of business because of the uncertainties of the latest economic pointers, the industrial unrest at the British Leyland factories and in front of the government re-shuffle.

The Financial Times industrial shares index was down 4.0 at 389.0. Profit-taking developed among companies with North Sea oil interests. Oil shares themselves were quiet and a little easier where changed. Banks were down, because of the fall in base-rates prior to the week-end and profit-taking after the Lloyd's results. Hong Kong and Shanghai held steady.

In tobacco, Dunhill was a weak feature. Plantations showed little change, with Assam Frontier modestly higher.

Among other mining issues, diamonds went firmer, but Rio Tinto zinc was unsettled and Pancontinental was unchanged despite recent favourable press comment. The Japanese list was unchanged.

Price of gold closed in London Monday at \$187.25/oz.

Fahmi wants France at meet

(Continued from page 1) Egypt and France.

He said they discussed all aspects of the crisis and the role which European Economic Community (EEC) countries, and in particular France, could play.

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